

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 11634 231824Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----030775 231826Z /72

O R 231800Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9667
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
USICA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 11634

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY) GW WB
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: ADDITIONAL SCHEDULING
AND PROGRAM ITEMS

REF: STATE 156688 (NOTAL)

1. AMBASSADOR HAS TOLD CHANCELLERY THAT PRESIDENT WILL
UNFORTUNATELY NOT BE ABLE TO ACCEPT THE CHANCELLOR'S
OFFER TO FLY FROM BONN TO FRANKFURT ON JULY 15.
CHANCELLOR IS BEING ADVISED OF THIS DECISION.

2. WITH REGARD TO RHEIN MAIN/ERBENHEIM/FRANKFURT PROGRAM
ON JULY 15, HESSIAN AUTHORITIES HAVE MADE A STRONG
REQUEST TO FRG, WHICH FRG HAS CONVEYED TO US, FOR USE OF
HELICOPTER RATHER THAN MOTORCADE TRANSPORT. REASONS ARE
THAT HIGH SECURITY PROTECTION CATEGORY ASSIGNED TO
PRESIDENT, CHANCELLOR AND THEIR PARTIES WOULD REQUIRE
CLOSURE OF AUTOBAHNS DURING A SATURDAY IN THE LOCAL
SCHOOL HOLIDAY SEASON WHEN AN ABOVE AVERAGE NUMBER OF
BOTH GERMAN AND FOREIGN TRAVELLERS WOULD BE
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INCONVIENCED. WE HAVE POINTED OUT TO FRG OUR
RELUCTANCE TO BE DEPENDENT ON HELICOPTER TRANSPORT.
WE WOULD APPRECIATE, HOWEVER, CONFIRMATION FROM
WASHINGTON THAT HELICOPTER TRANSPORT SYSTEM IS ONE THAT
WASHINGTON DOES NOT WANT TO CONSIDER.

3. EMBASSY, FRG AND US MILITARY FORESEE PROBLEMS IF

GERMAN NATIONALS BEYOND MILITARY DEPENDENTS OF PARTICIPATING UNITS ARE EXCLUDED FROM ERBENHEIM PROGRAM (REFTEL, PARA 4). AT PRESENT, WE ENVISAGE THAT THERE WOULD BE ABOUT EIGHT THOUSAND AMERICANS, BOTH SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN AND THEIR DEPENDENTS, AT THIS EVENT. PRINCIPAL GERMAN UNIT WHICH WOULD PARTICIPATE ALONG WITH BRIGADE 76 IS GERMAN PANZER BRIGADE 14 FROM KOBLENZ. DEPENDENTS OF UNIT MEMBERS ARE UNLIKELY TO MAKE THE TRIP TO ERBENHEIM IN SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS BECAUSE EARLY HOUR THAT UNIT NEEDS TO BE IN PLACE. THUS, RATIO OF AMERICANS TO GERMANS AT EVENT WOULD BE MORE THAN EIGHT TO ONE. US MILITARY AND FRG HAVE ALSO RAISED CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL US-GERMAN RELATIONS, RELATING TO NEIGHBORING TOWNS OF WIESBADEN AND MAINZ, BOTH OF WHICH ARE EXTREMELY HELPFUL TO US FORCES AND PROGRAMS IN THE AREA. WE PROPOSE THAT, IN ADDITION TO FRG MILITARY AND THEIR DEPENDENTS INVOLVED IN PROGRAM, WE HAVE LATITUDE TO INVITE APPROXIMATELY 1000 MORE GERMANS FROM SURROUNDING WIESBADEN/MAINZ AREA. THESE WOULD INCLUDE PROMINENT LOCAL OFFICIALS AND OTHERS WHO ARE PARTICULARLY HELPFUL IN LOCAL US-FRG RELATIONS, AND INVITATIONS WOULD BE HANDLED CAREFULLY SO AS TO MINIMIZE ANY SECURITY PROBLEMS. IMPORTANCE OF HAVING THIS TYPE OF LATITUDE BOTH FOR SAKE OF LOCAL US-FRG RELATIONS AND TO PERMIT A SOMEWHAT MORE EQUAL BALANCE OF GERMANS AND AMERICANS PRESENT AT PROGRAM, WAS RAISED
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IN STRONG TERMS BY FRG AT CHANCELLERY JUNE 22, INCLUDING BY CHANCELLOR'S FOREIGN AFFAIRS ADVISER RUHFUS AND FMOD GENERAL ALTENBURG. WE BELIEVE SUCH LATITUDE IMPORTANT TO ENSURE SUCCESS AND FAVORABLE FRG PUBLICITY FOR PROGRAM, AND REQUEST URGENT WASHINGTON CONCURRENCES

4. WE ARE ALSO FACING INCREASING PRACTICAL PRESSURES TO BE ABLE TO DEAL PUBLICLY WITH VARIOUS MAJOR AGREED SEGMENTS OF THE OVER-ALL PROGRAM (E.G., FRANKFURT, ERBENHEIM AND RHEIN MAIN PORTIONS FOR MORNING OF JULY 15). WE REQUEST AUTHORITY TO MENTION SUCH PORTIONS OF PROGRAM AS APPROPRIATE TO FACILITATE NECESSARY LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS (SUCH AS ANTICIPATED GERMAN TRANSPORTATION AND HIGHWAY CONTROL REQUIREMENTS), AS WELL AS AUTHORIZATION TO REPLY TO MEDIA QUERIES.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BONN11634
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780262-0896
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780627/aaaaaxje.tel
Line Count: 111
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ed041b83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 STATE 156688
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2233286
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: ADDITIONAL SCHEDULING AND PROGRAM ITEMS
TAGS: OVIP, GE, WB, (CARTER, JIMMY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ed041b83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014